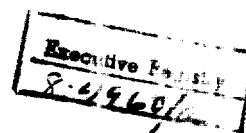


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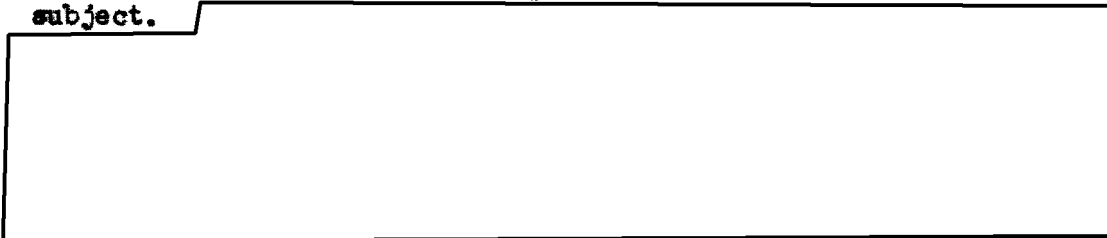
AUG 14 1956

Mr. J. Walter Yeagley, Chairman
Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security
3527 Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Yeagley:

Reference is made to your letter of 24 July 1956 requesting data on current measures in certain Latin American countries and in Canada which are designed to reduce the effectiveness of the Communist conspiracy.

The attached summaries represent the latest data on this subject.

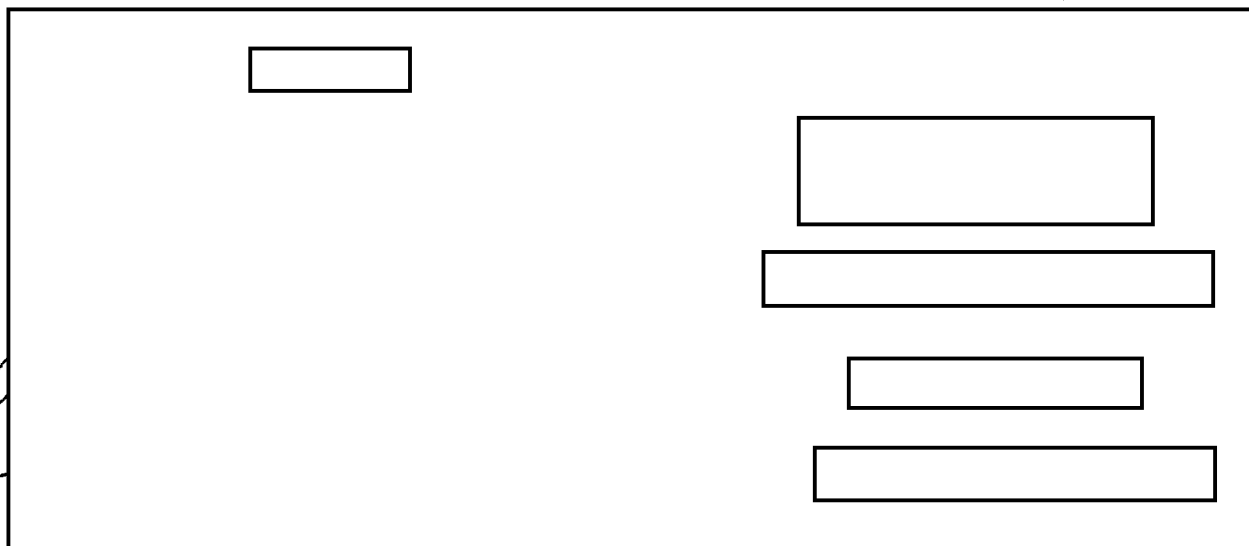


Sincerely yours,

DOJ Review Completed

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Attachment



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Executive
8-4960/2

AUG 14 1956

card
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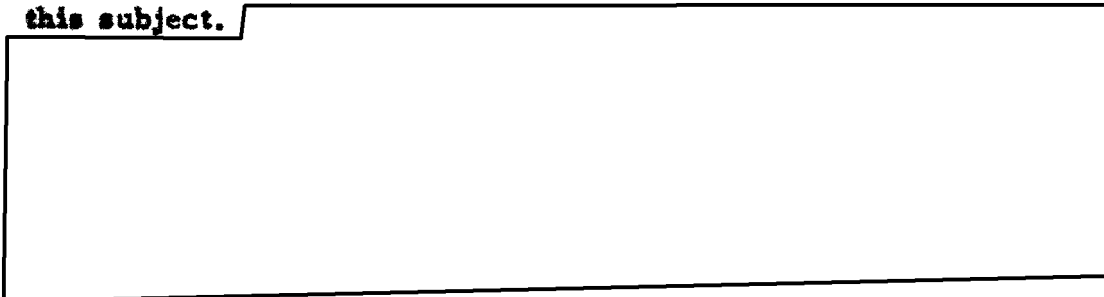
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Sincerely,

**Allen W. Dulles
Director**

Attachment

SECRET

SECRET**Cuba**

The Batista administration in Cuba takes an official position of being anti-Communist; actually, it does not regard Communism as a primary problem and has been lax in pursuing a genuinely anti-Communist program. In 1953, Cuba outlawed the Communist Party and broke diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, and recently it rejected Soviet overtures for a Soviet trade mission to Cuba. The government's principal measure designed to combat the effectiveness of Communism has been the creation of the Bureau for the Suppression of Communist Activities (BRAC). During the past year, BRAC's efforts have been largely confined to investigations to identify Communists in the various strata of Cuban society; little positive action has been taken. In recent months, however, progressive steps have been taken to revitalize BRAC. The potential for taking effective action against the Communist Party is good, but the likelihood of such action is problematical, inasmuch as the government does not regard the Communist conspiracy as such an immediate threat as that posed by other opposition groups.

Although Cuban Communist leaders are in hiding, the Party continues to hold meetings and is fairly active, especially in the field of propaganda. The government has no program under way to stop or counteract the Party's propaganda efforts, although it does intercept such propaganda when it runs across it. Legislation exists for restricting the international travel of Communists and for the removal of Communists from employment in public service organizations. This legislation is not rigidly enforced, although there have been several instances in recent months in which Communists have been removed from positions of leadership in trade unions.

The Cuban government has not yet designated an official to deal with a United States Government counterpart for the exchange of information on Communist matters under Resolution 93 of the Caracas Agreement.

Mexico

[REDACTED]

This has resulted in sporadic arrests of leading Communists. But there is no continuing program of action against the Party by the government, which does not regard the Communist movement seriously. No measures are currently being applied to restrict the activities of Soviet and Soviet bloc diplomatic representatives in Mexico.

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Guatemala

The Guatemalan government is vigorously executing a program against the Communist conspiracy in that country. The Constitution of Guatemala authorizes the Sectional Committee for the Defense against Communism, generally known as the Comité, which directs the program, to suppress Communist elements within the country and the Committee is supported operationally by the police forces. Communist activities are being continuously investigated; persons found or suspected to be engaging in such activities are arrested, interrogated and deported. Restrictions against Guatemalan or other Communists engaged in international travel and against persons seeking to cross the Guatemalan borders illegally are being rigidly enforced. The government is engaging in a program of propaganda against the Communist Party and is conducting liaison with an American Embassy official for the exchange of information on Communist matters under the terms of Resolution 93 of the Caracas Agreement.

Panama

The Panamanian government does not consider the small, disorganized, illegal Communist Party in that country as a significant threat. [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED] The government considers itself capable of effectively handling any domestic Communist difficulties. During the recent meeting in Panama of Presidents of Western Hemisphere countries, the Panamanian government took action to keep undesirable elements, including Communists, under control.

Nicaragua

The anti-Communist position of President Somoza of Nicaragua is well known. The Communist Party in Nicaragua is small and illegal.

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[REDACTED] Whereas in 1955 Communists and suspects were imprisoned without charges being brought against them, these persons have been released and no further repressive measures have been taken against Communists during the current year. The Office of National Security continuously conducts investigations of Communist personnel and activities, although such investigations are not on a highly professional, efficient level.

Costa Rica

In Costa Rica, the government appears to be interested in Communist activities only as they affect the local political scene, and is taking no measures against the Communist Party.

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El Salvador

As a result of pressure being brought by the Guatemalan government, the Salvadoran government in recent months has reportedly begun to enforce provisions of the Immigration law which are applicable to refugees, with the result that some Communist exiles from Latin American countries have been forced to leave Salvador. The government displays a passive attitude toward the regimes of international Communism, and so far as is known, has no program of action against the Communist Party.

British Honduras

British Honduras is a British Crown colony. No information is available concerning current measures against the Communist movement in that colony.

Martinique

The Communist Party is a legal body and is the largest political party in the French possession of Martinique, accounting for two of the island's three members in the French National Assembly. The French government employs no measures to repress the Communist activity on Martinique.

Canada

According to available information the Labor Progressive Party (LPP), the Communist party of Canada, has about 7,500 members. Although the membership of both the Party and many of its auxiliary organizations has increased during the past three years, the strength of the movement in comparison with the growing Canadian population has steadily decreased. The attitude of the Canadian Government toward the Party is one of watchful readiness. Despite the Party's small size and seeming ineffectiveness when viewed against the background of the strong Canadian political system, the Government regards the Communist movement as a constant threat to the Canadian national security. The Government's underlying policy toward the party has been two pronged: (a) to keep fully informed on Communist activities, and (b) to be prepared to control the Labor Progressive Party and its affiliates should any emergency arise.

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**now stated: "adequate powers exist to effectively control the LP
and its affiliated organizations in time of emergency".**

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INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY
3527 Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

Executive Registry
34950

July 24, 1956

IGIS-P61/130

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

On April 2, 1956, the IGIS wrote to the Secretary of State pointing out that in connection with a recent study concerning the vulnerability of the United States to hypothetical clandestine attacks against certain targets, this Committee had furnished the National Security Council with reports containing information indicating Communist strength in the following countries: Cuba, Canada, Martinique, Guatemala, Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, British Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua.

The IGIS requested that, in view of the assistance which Communists in these countries could render to clandestine operations against the United States, the Department of State conduct a study to ascertain the present status of measures in the enumerated countries designed to reduce the effectiveness of the Communist conspiracy, with particular emphasis on the detention of dangerous Communists in the event of an emergency.

The Department of State has communicated to us regarding steps it has taken and plans to take in order to carry out our request. In this connection that Department refers to pertinent reports which it has available, and suggests that other Government agencies, particularly the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency, may have on file much of the information in which we are interested.

Accordingly, we request that you make available to this Committee information which you may have pertinent to the above request to the Department of State. We are addressing a similar request to the Secretary of Defense.

Sincerely yours,

s/ J. Walter Yeagley

J. Walter Yeagley
Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee
on Internal Security

SECRET

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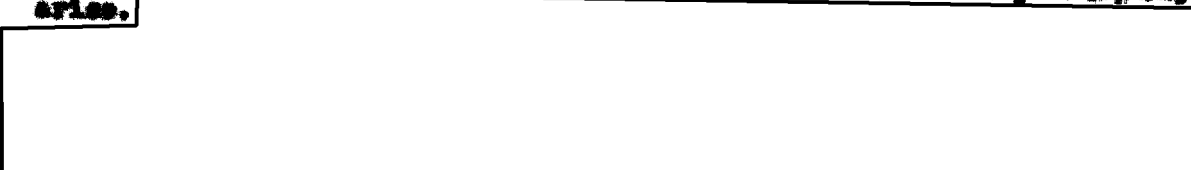
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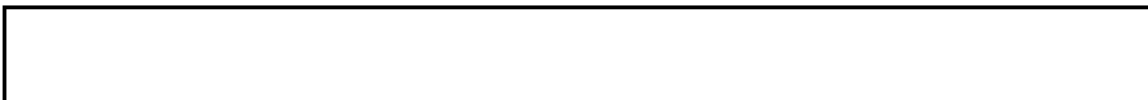
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RDP stated: "adequate persons exist to effectively control the IFF and its affiliated organizations in time of emergency".

~~SECRET~~

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY
3527 Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

Executive Registry
4960

July 24, 1956

ICIS-P61130

C
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Y

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

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Sincerely yours,

s/ J. Walter Yeagley

J. Walter Yeagley
Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee
on Internal Security

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